DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES



Food and Drug Administration Rockville MD 20857

FEB 1 7 2010

Re: Firmagon Docket No.: FDA-2009-E-0206

The Honorable David J. Kappos Undersecretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office Mail Stop Hatch-Waxman PTE P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Director Kappos:

This is in regard to the application for patent term extension for U.S. Patent No. 5,925,730, filed by Ferring BV, under 35 U.S.C. section 156 et seq. We have reviewed the dates contained in the application and have determined the regulatory review period for Firmagon (degarelix acetate), the human drug product claimed by the patent.

The total length of the regulatory review period for Firmagon (degarelix acetate) is 2,695 days. Of this time, 2,394 days occurred during the testing phase and 301 days occurred during the approval phase. These periods of time were derived from the following dates:

- 1. The date an exemption under subsection 505(i) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act involving this drug product became effective: August 10, 2001.
 - FDA has verified the applicant's claim that the date the investigational new drug application became effective was on August 10, 2001.
- 2. The date the application was initially submitted with respect to the human drug product under section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act: February 28, 2008.
 - FDA has verified the applicant's claim that the new drug application (NDA) 22-201 was submitted on February 28, 2008.
- 3. The date the application was approved: December 24, 2008.
 - FDA has verified the applicant's claim that NDA 22-201 was approved on December 24, 2008.

This determination of the regulatory review period by FDA does not take into account the effective date of the patent, nor does it exclude one-half of the testing phase as required by 35 U.S.C. section 156(c)(2).

Please let me know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Jane A. Axelrad

Associate Director for Policy

Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

cc: Charles E. Van Horn

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